

# County of Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Headquarters 4700 Ramona Boulevard

Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

June 1, 2004

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

# AUTHORIZE THE SHERIFF TO ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD FROM THE LIBERTY HILL FOUNDATION (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

#### IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

- 1. Authorize the Sheriff of Los Angeles County, as an agent for the County, to sign and accept a grant award in the amount of \$25,000 from the Liberty Hill Foundation, Lesbian and Gay Community Fund 2004.
- Authorize the Sheriff to execute all future amendments, modifications, extensions, and/or augmentations to said grant should such action(s) be required during the term of the grant.

# PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

In January 2004, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department submitted a grant application to the Liberty Hill Foundation to receive funding from the Lesbian and Gay Community Fund for Correctional Services Division's Social Mentoring Academic and Rehabilitative Training (S.M.A.R.T.) Program. In April 2004, notification was received that the Sheriff's Department was awarded a \$25,000 grant.

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The S.M.A.R.T. Program is an in-custody program located at the Men's Central Jail that assists gay and transgendered inmates. This program serves 130 to 150 gay and transgendered (a.k.a. K-11) inmates daily by providing a host of services such as vocational and educational training, STD/HIV testing, and HIV awareness and prevention classes. The primary goal of the S.M.A.R.T. Program is to reduce recidivism and educate the K-11 inmates so they return to their communities with a much greater rate of transitional success.

The S.M.A.R.T. Program has been in existence since December 1999 and is successful through collaboration and community involvement. Partners include Tarzana Treatment Center, Sunrise Counseling Center, Public Health Department's Center for Disease Control and Prevention, the Hacienda La Puente Unified School District, CorrectHELP, and Alcoholics Anonymous. Each partner has a unique role and provides K-11 inmates with information and support, empowers them with tools, and teaches them skills to become productive members of society. This, in turn, reduces their likelihood of returning to the jail system.

### Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

The S.M.A.R.T. program meets the County of Los Angeles' Strategic Plan Goal for Service Excellence by reaching out to specific inmates, who are considered a unique population, and providing them with the necessary tools to function outside of the jail system as productive members of society. This educational approach assists in reducing the rate of recidivism.

#### FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The grant award from the Liberty Hill Foundation, Lesbian and Gay Community Fund, is for \$25,000, with no local match required. The allocation of funding will pay for computer equipment and supplies to modernize the classroom.

The \$25,000 has been included in the Department's Fiscal Year 2004/2005 budget.

# FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Purchases made using the grant award provided by Liberty Hill's Lesbian and Gay Community Fund will be completed within one year.

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County Counsel has reviewed the grant award document and approved this Board Letter as to form.

## **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The funding that has been awarded will have a positive impact on the current services within the Sheriff's Department, specifically within the S.M.A.R.T. program. S.M.A.R.T. is currently a successful program; this funding will enhance the programmatic goals by providing more tools (i.e. computers) to K-11 inmates for vocational training.

#### CONCLUSION

Upon approval by your Board, the Department respectfully requests that your Board please provide four (4) individually adopted copies of this action. The Department's contacts for this requested Board action are Karen J. Anderson, Grants Manager, at (323) 526-5408, or Michelle Day, Grants Coordinator, at (323) 526-5212.

Respectfully submitted.

LEROY D. BACA SHERIFF